

Date: March 1, 2002

To: Chairman Getman and Commissioners Downey, Knox, and Swanson

From: Mark Krausse, Executive Director

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

This is a summary of administrative and division activity since the report sent to you prior to the January Commission meeting.

A. PERSONNEL

In January, two Enforcement Division attorneys—Michelle Bigelow and Amanda Saxton—gave notice that they would be leaving the agency for other positions in state service. As a result, the Commission directed me to submit a request for an exemption to the current hiring freeze in order to fill four attorney positions—three in the Enforcement Division and one in the Legal Division. The Department of Finance approved three exemptions, and directed the Commission to resubmit an exemption request after February 25th when the fourth position would become vacant.

The first of these vacancies was filled on February 25th by Elizabeth Conti, a former deputy district attorney who worked for the California Youth Authority immediately before coming to the Enforcement Division. The deadline for applications for the remaining positions is February 28 (“or until filled”); interviews will begin in early March. In addition, the Legal Division will seek to use the services of legal interns. Intern recruitment efforts are underway at McGeorge School of Law and Stanford Law School.

B. STAFF PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

The 2002 Political Reform Act is complete and has been posted on the Commission’s website for download & browsing by the public. Hard copies of the Act are available upon request, but will be provided via CD-ROM whenever possible in order to reduce printing costs.

The Public Education Unit produced a February *Bulletin*, and distributed it by electronic mail to approximately 60 recipients in an effort to move away from the costs of producing and mailing hardcopy publications. Many subscribers continue to receive the *Bulletin* in hardcopy, but are being encouraged

distributed hundreds of copies of *How Do I Get Advice From the FPPC?*, a pamphlet recently circulated to all county counsels in the state, as well as many others. PEU continues to investigate possible methods of providing remote audio access to Commission meetings via telephone or the Internet.

The Technical Assistance Division provided filing officer outreach visits to the Cities of Burbank, Santa Monica, Delano, Corcoran, Rancho Santa Margarita, Live Oak, Solana Beach, Pasadena, Long Beach, San Marcos and Oceanside, the Santa Clara County Recreational Off-road Vehicle District and the State Department of General Services. In addition, the division's Teri Rindahl gave a presentation at a Los Angeles Ethics Commission meeting on statements of economic interests and conflict-of-interest codes and amendments. The division also provided nine filing officer seminars, a candidate/treasurer seminar and a PAC seminar.

The Legal Division provided a legislative bill analysis workshop for agency staff, presented by General Counsel Luisa Menchaca. Commission Counsel Scott Tocher spoke to visitors representing the Mongolian government regarding the Political Reform Act. In March, Assistant General Counsel John Wallace will join Deputy Attorney General Ted Prim in speaking to the California Environmental Protection Agency about conflicts of interest under the PRA and Government Code section 1090.

C. CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODES/AMENDMENTS

Since the last Commission meeting, the agency has approved codes and amendments for the following:

Assn. of California Water Agencies Joint Powers Insurance Authority
BETA Healthcare Group Risk Management Authority
Board of Equalization, State of California
Board of Prison Terms, State of California
California Earthquake Authority
College of the Redwoods
Department of Corporations, State of California
North Orange County Community College District
San Miguel Joint Union School District
University of California
Water Resources Control Board, State of California